

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
FOREST SERVICE

R-10

REPLY TO: 5220 Detection

September 29, 1972

SUBJECT: Summary of Detection Surveys on the South Tongass

TO: The Record



The following information is based on aerial and ground surveys that have been conducted on the South Tongass National Forest in 1972.

The aerial coverage included portions of the Ketchikan Ranger District on Revillagigedo and Gravina Islands; the Kasaan Ranger District from Cholmondeley Sound to Whale Pass; and the Craig Ranger District from Hecta Island north.

Ground surveys conducted at various times, from April through late August, were made by entomologists from the Regional Office and the Forestry Sciences Laboratory at Juneau. The general areas included were McKenzie Inlet, George Inlet, Ward-Lake-Connell Lake and the locations visited during the spring defoliator egg survey and during the annual larval defoliator survey conducted in late July.

In addition to the major areas of damage caused by insect pests, this report includes acreages of alder and/or black cottonwood that were observed in portions of recently logged harvest units.

The results of survey activity indicate that defoliator populations are significantly increasing. An increase in blackheaded budworm larval populations has been recorded at various sampling points on the Ketchikan and Kasaan Ranger Districts. New outbreaks of hemlock sawfly amounting to approximately 14,000 acres have been observed. Among these is an outbreak in the Ward Creek drainage which has resulted in extreme defoliation and some tree killing. More defoliation and tree killing is expected in 1973.

The following is a breakdown of survey observations for the Districts on the Forest.

KETCHIKAN RANGER DISTRICT

1. Moderate to extreme defoliation caused by the hemlock sawfly has resulted in tree killing within portions of a 1,200 acre outbreak occurring in the Ward Creek drainage from Ward Cove to Talbot Lake. The areas of heaviest defoliation occur along the west side of Ward Lake and along Slide Side paralleling the Harriet Hunt access road between Ward and Connell Lakes.

A more precise estimate of damage and a prediction concerning population levels for 1973 will be made in this area in mid-October. Following this field work a biological evaluation and damage appraisal will be submitted to the Forest for their review and use in planning any desired follow-up action.

2. Additional hemlock sawfly defoliation was observed at the following locations:

<u>AREA</u>	<u>ACRES</u>
Neets Bay (Revillagigedo Island)	600
Traitors Cove (Revillagigedo Island)	550
Thorne Arm-Big Lake area	3100
Gokachin Creek (Revillagigedo Island)	350
Thorne Arm between Gnat Cove and Snipe Island	400
Princess Bay (Revillagigedo Island)	750
Short Pass (Revillagigedo Island)	450
Smeaton Island (Behm Canal)	1400
Rudyard Island (Behm Canal)	400
Whipple Creek (Revillagigedo Island)	500
TOTAL	8,500

3. Alder and/or black cottonwood was observed in recently logged harvest units at the following locations:

<u>AREA</u>	<u>ACRES</u>
Upper end of Neets Bay	200
Traitors Cove	160
Carroll Creek (upper end Carroll Inlet)	150
East side of Carroll Inlet between Calamity and Marble Creek	300
* Gravina Island between Nelson Cove and Nehente Bay	600
** Helm Bay (Cleveland Peninsula)	350
TOTAL	1,810

4. Cedar mortality, caused in part by the cedar bark beetle, commonly occurs on the District and collectively amounts to several thousand acres.

\* \* Older cutting unit

\* Older cutting unit and fire

5. No recent blowdown was observed.

KASAAN RANGER DISTRICT

1. Sawfly defoliation was observed at the following locations:

<u>AREA</u>	<u>ACRES</u>
Stevenson Island-SW side	450
NE side of Galea Lake	300
Thorne River drainage east of Thorne Lake	600
Thorne Head-Snug Anchorage area	750
Paul Young Creek drainage (head end of Karta Bay)	1900
Polk Inlet between Cabin and Salmon Creek	400
McKenzie Inlet	80
Sunny Cove (west arm Cholmondeley Sound)	100
West Arm Cholmondeley Sound (1 mile west Big Creek)	200
South Arm Cholmondeley Sound	600
Kitkun Bay-Miller Lake area	4200
Dora Bay	1100
North Arm Moira Sound	3000
Windy Point (west side Prince of Wales Island)	750

TOTAL 14,430

2. Moderate amounts of mortality was observed over 900 acres along the north side of the west arm of Cholmondeley Sound from Sunny Cove west for about 3 miles.

The dead hemlock is a result of chronic sawfly defoliation occurring over the past three seasons. Apparently this outbreak has subsided --no new defoliation was observed this year.

3. Alder was observed in recently logged harvest units at the following locations:

<u>AREA</u>	<u>ACRES</u>
Maybeso Creek (Hollis)	450
Twelve Mile Creek	200
West side of Prince of Wales Island (1 mile south Windy Point)	60
TOTAL	710

4. Cedar mortality, caused in part by the cedar bark beetle, commonly occurs in the District and collectively amounts to several thousand acres.

5. No recent blowdown was observed.

#### CRAIG RANGER DISTRICT

1. Light defoliation, caused by the hemlock sawfly occurred over 150 acres on the east side of El Capitan Passage, 2 miles south of Twin Island Lake. This infestation is expected to continue next year.

2. Severe defoliation of cedar, probably resulting from exposure to extremely cold winds during periods of sunny weather last winter, was observed at the following locations:

<u>AREA</u>	<u>ACRES</u>
Whalehead area	1000
Cone Bay (Heceta Island)	300
Sure Point (Heceta Island)	500
Cape Lynch-Gulf of Esquibel	1000
St. Phillips Island	500
Bob's Point in San Christoval Channel	300
Anguilla Island	750
TOTAL	4,350

3. Cedar mortality, caused in part by the cedar bark beetle, commonly occurs on the District and collectively amounts to several thousand acres.

4. No recent blowdown was observed.

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